



Press Release

BROKEN ARROW POLICE DEPARTMENT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BROKEN ARROW, OK August 25, 2003

During the Labor Day holiday weekend, the Broken Arrow Police Department will join 1,700 law enforcement agencies in a five state area for a multi-state crash reduction enforcement crackdown. Because the Labor Day weekend is traditionally the end of the summer travel & vacation season, we are anticipating record numbers of travelers on our roadways this weekend. Because of this increase in traffic we anticipate a number of Oklahomans will be involved in traffic collisions. The year 2002 Labor Day holiday weekend was a particular deadly period of time on Oklahoma roadways. The efforts of Oklahoma law enforcement officers will hopefully decrease these numbers through proactive traffic enforcement.

Beginning 6 PM Thursday, August 28th till Midnight Monday, September 1st, area law enforcement agencies are committing additional personnel and resources for traffic enforcement. The number of uniformed officers that will be patrolling our streets & highways this weekend will significantly increase. Our goal is to make the roadways in our area safer for holiday travelers by reducing collision causing traffic violations and increasing the use of life-saving restraints.

The five participating states in this region for "Operation Blue TALON" include Oklahoma, Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas & New Mexico. Additionally, the Indian Nations in these 5 states will be participating. The message is simple; area law enforcement are joining forces to reduce the high losses associated with inappropriate driving behavior. We do this because we care. We do this to save lives. Officers in these states will be looking for those motorists who choose to drive aggressively, drinking drivers and vehicle occupants who are not properly restrained by seat belts and child restraints.

We invite our media partners to attend a press conference announcing this initiative on **Wednesday, August 27th at 10:00 am**. The press conference will be held in conjunction with a multi-agency Seat Belt Enforcement Zone located on Garnett south of 71st Street, on the southeast corner south of the Walgreen's.

Authority: Sgt. Ed Ferguson

Broken Arrow Police

Traffic Specialist Unit